

South Dakota Investing in Teachers

In his budget address Dec. 6, 2011, Governor Dennis Daugaard called for a massive statewide training effort called South Dakota Investing in Teachers. He proposed that \$8.4 million in one-time funds be used for this purpose. With an eye on preparing students to succeed in a globally competitive workforce, the effort would consist of a four-pronged approach:

- Training for teachers as they implement the new Common Core standards in English language arts and math
- Training for science teachers to build the skills necessary to deliver problem-based learning in STEM areas
- Training for school counselors to address career development and South Dakota's workforce needs
- Training for school administrators to support them in their roles as instructional leaders, particularly in the areas of Common Core and teacher evaluation

Understanding the value these professional development opportunities ultimately have on students, educators will be paid for their participation.

1) Common Core and Teacher Standards training

YEAR 1: Focus on Common Core

Training to provide English language arts and math teachers with hands-on experiences to gain deeper understanding of the Common Core standards; investigate how the Common Core standards impact teaching practices; work through curriculum planning; emphasize standards-driven curriculum; connect relevant initiatives.

- Menu of training opportunities to include options such as curriculum analysis, higher order assessment, unit/project design, evaluation of supplemental resources
- Regional trainings and onsite assistance options

YEAR 2: Focus on Teacher Standards

Training to ensure that teachers statewide fully understand the Charlotte Danielson Framework for Teaching, which forms the basis for teacher evaluation in South Dakota.

- Regional trainings and onsite assistance options

2) Science Academies for teachers

Training to provide science teachers with the tools necessary to change the vision for science education. Teachers will obtain the skills and methods necessary to alter the classroom environment to better focus students on learning content through the practical application of science.

- Regional trainings and onsite assistance options

3) Counselor training

Training for school counselors and other key educators to address career development and South Dakota's workforce needs. Focus on SDMyLife's online academic and career planning resources to assist students with high school course selection and making informed decisions about postsecondary and workforce options.

- Regional trainings

4) Leadership training

Training to support administrators in their roles as instructional leaders, as they work to implement Common Core across schools/districts, manage the demands of aligning new curriculum, and evaluate teachers based on the state's teaching standards using evidence-based observations.

- Regional summer trainings with ongoing opportunities for follow-up through the school year (online and face-to-face)
- Options for obtaining graduate credit

	SY 2011-2012	Summer 2012	SY 2012-2013	Summer 2013	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15
Training for teachers: Year 1: Common Core	Regional trainings across state Small groups to complete “unpacking” of standards	Regional and onsite Common Core academies for teachers and administrators	Common Core resources identified for schools to use Ongoing follow-up in districts and regionally	Further Common Core training based on identified needs	Common Core practices and resources available and fully implemented	Common Core fully implemented and assessed
Training for teachers: Year 2: Danielson Framework	Pilot schools receive training on new standards and evaluation processes. Book studies and workshops statewide.		Statewide online training on teacher standards	Training for teachers on teacher evaluation system	District trainings and support upon request	
STEM training		STEM academies held regionally for science teachers	Ongoing follow-up to infuse best practices into curriculum			

	SY 2011-2012	Summer 2012	SY 2012-2013	Summer 2013	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15
School counselors training		Regional trainings on career counseling for students				
Leadership initiative		Leadership academy for school administrators, inclusive of Common Core and evaluation practices	Ongoing follow-up onsite and regionally	Options for trainings regionally TBD	Online opportunities. Leadership program changes.	

Updated: Dec. 6, 2011